as envisaged in the Simla Agreement. Government have repeatedly, made known their desire to resume a direct bilateral dialogue without any preconditions. Pakistan has, however, not responded positively and continues to promote and support trans-border terrorism directed against India. Government are firmly resolved to take all necessary measures to counter terrorism promoted and supported by Pakistan.

In Pursuit of its policy to internationalise the J&K issue, Pakistan raises it at various international fora. Government make suitable responses wherever appropriate.

Terrorist Activities in Himachal Pradesh

361. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state: (a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a news item published in the Hindi daily "Dainik Jagran" dated the 13th October, 1995 under the caption 'Kukhyat Atankvadiyon ka Kendra banta ja raha hai Himachal';

(b) if so, the number of terrorists nabbed in Himachal Pradesh during the last three years;

(c) whether it is also a fact that foreign trained militants have established their strongholds in other States of the country also, if so, the names of these States; and

(d) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SYED SIBTEY RAZI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The information is being obtained from States/Union Territories and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(d) Under the VIIth Schedule to the Constitution, 'Public Order' and 'Police' are State subjects. It is for the concerned State Governments to devise various methods and take concrete steps in this regard. At the Central level action is taken to facilitate coordination of the anti-terrorist operations of different States and to improve flow of information useful for control of terrorist/insurgency activities among the States. Further, help is being provided to the State Governments in terms of financial assistance for modernisation of police, supply of improved weapons, deployment of para-military forces etc.

News-Item Regarding deaths in Judicial Custody

362. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item published in the Indian Express of 4th October, 1995 under the caption "Delhi tops in judicial custody deaths";

(b) if so, what are the full details thereof;

(c) the reasons therefor; and

(d) necessary action taken thereon by Government as a corrective step?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (PROF. MEIJINLUNG KAMSON): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) 49 prisoners died in Central Jail, Tihar between April, 1994 and June, 1995. Details are enclosed in the Statement. (*see* below)

In all these cases inquest under Section 176 of Code of Criminal Procedure have been conducted. Inquest reports have been received in 45 cases and an interim report has been received in one case. From the reports, it is ascertained that 14 prisoners died due to Tuberculosis and 24 from other natural causes. 7 prisoners committed suicide and one prisoner died due to beating by jail staff.

(d) The following measures have been taken by the Government:—

(i) One additional hospital has been constructed in Jail No. 4.